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THE TALON

November 6, 1997

Avila College 11901 Wornall Road Kansas City, Mo. 64145

Volume VI, Issue 3

News Briefs

Advising and Registration

Advising takes place Nov. 17-20 in the Registrar's Office in Marian Center. All students must meet with their adviser and obtain their signature before they will be allowed to register. All library fines must be paid as well.

Every Family has Its Secrets...

Come and see *Buried Child*, by Pulitzer-prize winning playwright Sam Shepard, in Goppert Theatre on Nov. 13-16.

Dance for Turkey Day

There will be a dance on Saturday, Nov. 22, in Mabey Fieldhouse from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

No Classes

Thanksgiving Break begins Nov. 26 and lasts until Nov. 30.

Bandit Queen

This film tells the story of an "untouchable" caste member who married at 11 and was raped by her husband. Her revenge to her husband and others who hurt her makes her a folk hero to the lower classes. The movie will be shown at 8 p.m., Nov. 23 in Whitfield Center. The film contains adult material and is unrated.

Broadway Babies

A revue of the last 50 years on Broadway will be presented at Goppert Theatre on Saturday, Nov. 22, at 8 p.m.

Auditions for Next Semester

Auditions for Avila's spring semester theater presentations are scheduled immediately following Thanksgiving Break, Dec. 2-3. See Charlene Gould for more information.

Cocoa & Carols

The annual Christmas Concert and Tree-Lighting Ceremony will be held on Dec. 7 at 4 p.m. in Goppert Theatre. Cocoa & Carols will follow the ceremony.

Internship Available

Contemporary Group, a concert marketing and promotion company, has summer internships available. Applicants must receive college credit and be able to work 10-20 hours per week. For more information, call Jenny Weir at 384-8940.

Graduate School Fair

More than 20 colleges and universities are launching the first Graduate Education Fair. It will be from 3-6 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 9 at the University of Kansas Edwards Campus, 12600 Quivira Road in Overland Park.

North American Association of Master's in Psychology

This group is new to the Avila campus and is here to help promote education for training at the master's level of psychology. They will hold informal monthly educational and information meetings. See Dr. Frank Yeatman for more details.

Christmas At The Ritz

A holiday musical review featuring the tunes of Irving Berlin will be shown at the American Heartland Theater until Jan. 4, 1998. *Irving Berlin's Christmas At The Ritz* tickets may be purchased at the theater box office or by calling (816) 842-9999.

Participants Needed for Unique Summer Internship Program

College students interested in public affairs are now being recruited for participation in a 10-week summer internship program through Coro Kansas City. Application deadline for the 1998 summer program is Nov. 21. Call Karen Stubbs at (816) 931-0751 to request an application.

Advantage: Ins And Outs

by **BEN HENRY**
Copy Editor

This year marks the first in what college officials hope will be a successful degree completion program at Avila.

The Avila Advantage, a program instituted to lure degree-seeking, non-traditional students, offers an academic format designed to accommodate the busy lives of working professionals trying to finish a college degree.

Currently, the Advantage program is limited to only business classes; the only degree offered is a Bachelor's of Science in Business Administration.

All courses are three semester hours of credit and are offered in five and eight week sessions year-round.

Avila Advantage students may also enroll in weekend intensive courses or the traditional undergraduate courses to satisfy core or general elective requirements.

The convenient schedule of the Advantage program (classes meet once a week from 6-10 p.m.) presents an opportunity for adults who work during the day.

There are 41 students enrolled in the program, and the list of applicants is growing as more and more adults return to college in pursuit of a degree.

"The Advantage program is taught by instructors that are more working professionals than full-time faculty," said Michael Kaley, director of marketing and admissions for the program. "It's more practical-based than theory-based, and the only reason we're doing that is because we realize that the students coming into this program have a num-

ber of years of work experience... we want them to draw upon their work experience and we also ask that the instructors do that."

es."

These classes are the same as those of the Avila Advantage students, only these are being taken as a step towards self-growth or a degree from another college.

A person is allowed to take up to nine credit hours of "enrichment classes" through Avila's Advantage program.

Eight traditional Avila students

have also taken courses through the Advantage program, although they are not part of the program. Business students, with special approval from their advisers and the Avila Advantage Admissions Committee, can take up to nine credit hours through the program for special circumstances.

According to Sr. Fran, there is about a 3-1 ratio of women to men in the Advantage program. As the director of advising and admissions for the Avila Advantage, Sr. Fran knows them all. She calls her office (located in Whitfield Center) a "one-stop service center" because, unlike traditional students, Avila Advantage students can do everything there, including buy books.

"We're talking about an adult learner who is working full-time," Sr. Fran said, "who is motivated because they realize the necessity of a degree."

"It is different than the traditional, coming out of high school-type student."

"What Avila College is saying is that we want to respond to the needs in the community."

"There is not one way to respond to needs. There are lots of needs; we want to respond in a variety of ways."

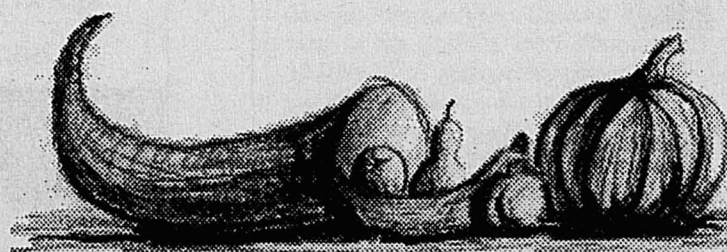
Avila Advantage Program Requirements

- A minimum of 10 hours of transferable credit
- 23 years of age or special approval of the Avila Advantage Admissions Committee
- A minimum of 3 years work experience
- One 30 hours of your degree earned through Avila College

Time for Information

At our information sessions, you will meet with Avila Advantage admissions personnel and learn more about our unique program. We will cover all aspects of admission, enrollment, and fees, as well as answer your questions.

photo by Brian Stuckey



Video Practicum Produces Practical Learning

by KARI DONNELL
Staff Writer

It all began in Advanced Video Production class; an assignment for teacher Ben Meade that brought international recognition for two Avila students.

Neither Delaina Renfro nor Lori Gibson expected all this attention from a project that began last year. The students in Meade's class were assigned to address one of the many conservation issues that haunt our world, on video tape, that would later be entered in the World Population Film and Video Festival. When the results were revealed last month, those involved were more than pleased.

Renfro and Gibson were both awarded with top honors, along with 28 other talented entrants from all over the

globe. The contest committee analyzed 237 videos/films, selected 30 of the best, and divided the \$10,000 grand prize

accordingly. This left the two video experts with an extra \$270 in their pockets.

"I think one of the greatest things is that entries were sent in from big schools like Stanford and North Carolina, along with film schools all over the world. Lori and I were the only winners from the same school. That helps to put Avila on the map," Renfro said.

Not only did these two receive a cash prize, they are quickly becoming local celebrities. Channel 41 aired a 45 second clip on the occupational achievement displayed in their "Good News" segment, at 6:30 p.m. on Oct. 22. Radio stations, such as KCMO 710, are providing publicity as well.

However, local Kansas City

stations are not the only networks broadcasting these conservation concerns. PBS, TBS, and MTV each have bought the rights to run a composition of clips from the top 30 honorees. Approximately 5,000 colleges and high schools around the world will also receive copies of the tapes for further viewing.

Their approach was simple in concept, a self-expressed documentary on a pertinent world issue. Gibson focused on the population explosion in the Overland Park region and its damaging effects, while Renfro discussed the conservation of energy and natural resources.

"We were just glad we could do something to help save the environment," Gibson said.



photo by Brian Stuckey

Renfro and Gibson are all smiles about the prizes.

Pianos Get A Face-Lift

by LAURA K. HARRIS
Editor-In-Chief

Noticed anything new in Marian Center? There is a new piano in the lounge. Actually, there are several new pianos on the campus. In addition, there are new pianos in the chapel, in the teaching studio in Boserine Hall and in the McKeon Room.

The pianos are on loan from Vaccaro's Piano and Organ. Vaccaro's approached Cynthia Hukill, director of the music program, about the agreement this summer. Vaccaro's would loan Avila several new pianos and store their old ones. All the pianos loaned to the campus are Baldwin.

In exchange, Avila will host a sale at the end of the year for the pianos here and others that Vaccaro's will bring in.

The sale will probably be in the Goppert Theatre and lobby in May. The first two days of the sale will be only for the Avila community. Avila students, faculty, staff and alumni will be able to purchase the

pianos at a discount. The third day will be open to the public.

"It's really a win-win situation. Vaccaro's gets a sale associated with the college, and we get the use of these instruments," Hukill said.

The storage for Avila's pianos is provided by Vaccaro's off-campus. Hukill noted that it was an added bonus that she knew the movers and that Avila's pianos would be moved safely and stored well.

"This is one thing they did for us that made it possible to do this. We have a wonderful storage agreement; they are all safe and wrapped," Hukill said.

If the arrangement is suitable to both Avila and Vaccaro's, it may be renewed next year. Each piano that Vaccaro's provides is brand new, straight from the box.

"This is really an incredible opportunity to upgrade our inventory," Hukill said.

The majority of the pianos have already been moved in, and the remaining two arrived Wednesday, Nov. 3. The hold-

up on getting these two small grand pianos was from the factory. These pianos have been selling so well that the factory was forced to put them on back order.

Hukill also noted that these pianos will be great for the music festival because the pianos that were in the worst shape were the ones replaced.

The music program and those involved with it have responded with enthusiasm to the new pianos.

"Choir—or at least John Rudzinski—is enjoying the one in the large performance studio," Hukill said.



photo by Satomi Ishikawa

The new piano in Marion Center is there for student enjoyment.

Broadway Babies

A Revue of a Century of American Musicals!



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8:00 Goppert Theatre
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Nursing Student Realizing Dream

by ROBIN SMITH
Staff Writer

"I was driving home from work in the beginning of fall, when I noticed the leaves falling from the trees in all beautiful colors. I started thinking, I'm really old, with a daughter in college that is no longer my responsibility. My daughter was seeking her dream; there is no excuse for me not to seek mine," Avila nursing student Alba Sierra Perez said.

Perez was born in Guatemala, which is south of Mexico. Growing up she would teach the other children how to read and write, which was not considered a good thing. "Anything done in groups in Guatemala wasn't considered a good thing," Perez said. "Guatemala had a lot of political problems."

Perez became interested in the

medical field at the early age of 10. "I would spend the summers with my aunt, who is a doctor in the mountains, helping people. I would see the love and compassion that she showed for them and at that moment I knew what I wanted to do."

Although Perez became an accountant, she knew that was not her dream, and she was not happy.

"When I saw the leaves changing I compared it with my life and knew then it was time for a change," Perez said. That fall day four years ago, Perez changed her life and began making her dream come true.

Perez drove to Avila College where she had heard that they had the best nursing program. "The idea of Avila being a small Christian college, I thought Avila would probably be a home for me because I was scared," Perez said.

Perez went to the admissions

department and asked if anyone there spoke Spanish, since English is her second language. The admissions department suggested Sister Mary McGlone. "Sister Mary McGlone has guided me and been my mentor ever since," Perez said.

Perez not only attends Avila, she volunteers with women while they are giving birth by translating for those who do not speak English. She also does health screening for the homeless, is on call to translate in the emergency room at Truman Medical Center and visits Guatemala every summer to volunteer medical attention and more.

"You don't have to wait for the perfect moment to volunteer. I always told my daughter volunteering does not have to be something big; if you see some trash, pick it up, that's volunteering," Perez said.

description sounded interesting.

Her instincts proved right. Cox's work has been varied and enjoyable, with the added benefit of opening her eyes to new career possibilities.

She designed the Spring Fling T-shirt last year and creates many of the posters around campus that promote student activities. Cox worked especially hard planning the Homecoming carnival and pep rally.

One on-going project involves keeping a detailed scrapbook, filled with newspaper clippings, photographs and programs. Remsburg totes the scrapbook to various functions on and off campus to promote Avila and show the depth of student activities.

Cox has discovered the joy of working with people. Her positive work-study experience has led her to consider a career in either social work or design, areas she had never explored before.

The work-study program, conceived as a form of financial aid, can become for some students, far more valuable than the minimum wage it pays.

Check out these work-study assignments:

Athletic Assistant
Office/Game Assistant
Talon Lab Assistant
Community Relations Assistant
Groundskeeper
Costume Shop Assistant
Theater & Box Office
Gallery Assistant
Security Sentry

What's Up With Work Study?

by SHERI G. PORTER
Features Editor

Does the term work study conjure up images of dead-end, boring, minimum wage jobs? If so, think again. Work-study might serve a higher purpose in your student life.

Take Avila's financial aid specialist Christal Williams. Williams took her first work-study job in Avila's Community Relations department. In 1994, her sophomore year, she moved to financial aid, picking her job card out of the same 9 inch by 5 inch plastic box that now sits on a cabinet behind her desk. Working in financial aid appealed to her

jobs. William's financial aid guidebook says the program allows students to earn money to help pay education expenses and gain work experience in their course of study. The federal work program also encourages community service work—currently three Avila students are working at Heart of America Hospice.

Most students stay close to their interests. Nancy Aguirre, a junior accounting major, works in financial aid. Student athletes, like senior basketball player Stacey Clark, clamor to work in the athletic department.

But not everyone agrees with the philosophy of sticking with

what you know. Take Tracy Anderson, a senior history major who has worked as a

work-study for Susan Lawlor in the art program for four years.

Anderson said she ended up there by fate—a strictly random placement by financial aid office personnel.

"I'm not artistic at all," Anderson said. But her time has been well spent. She has learned new skills and attitudes that will ultimately help her as she pursues a career in museum work.

"I learned to hang pictures," she said. "I learned the importance of straight and neat." Anderson said her experience with Lawlor has made her a well-rounded person.

She added this bit of advice for fellow students: "I think anyone doing work-study should do it outside of their major."

For sophomore student Therese Cox, that was easy—she is an undeclared major, still unsure of her career direction. Cox works for Barb Remsburg, coordinator of residence life and new student development. Cox pulled that work study card last year because the job

MACCS

by FR. DANIEL
TORSON, CPPS
Contributing Writer

The Missouri Association of Catholic College Students (MACCS) is holding its annual retreat Nov. 14-16. It will be held at Savior of the World Pastoral Center, Bonner Springs, Kan. The retreat will begin Friday night and end at 1 p.m. on Sunday.

This event brings together college students from public and private colleges throughout the state of Missouri. Each year the

retreat moves between the eastern, central, and western regions of Missouri. Avila College and The College of the Ozarks are pleased to host MACCS in the western region this year.

Avila students of any faith are invited to register and attend MACCS. Scholarships are available by contacting Fr. Daniel Torson at ext. 2423. The weekend promises opportunities for faith exploration, social activities, workshops and interaction with students from around the state.

Red Sunday

by GEOFF TAUL
Contributing Writer

"I'm not a big Chiefs fan but I enjoy coming to the games because of the energy created in the parking lot," said a Minnesota native to our group at Arrowhead Stadium. We were there to enjoy a tailgate party and the Chiefs game.

A flavorful aroma of fresh barbecue met us at the gates. Once inside the stadium, red was the universal color. Radios played in unison, all set to the pregame show. Cars weaved in opposite directions through groups of people all hoping to grab the premiere site to arrange their party.

At noon we were parked and began to set up camp. The atmosphere was amazing. Every direction I looked there were cars surrounded by large groups of people. Most groups set up table and chairs, and one party even brought a couch and a television.

Each group had the essentials: A barbecue grill and a packed cooler. A variety of meat was grilled by the different parties. Hamburgers and hot dogs seemed popular, although some people enjoyed steak, salmon, and shrimp. All the cooking created a smoky haze over the

parking lot, with a strong fragrance of charcoal. The drink of choice was chilled beer.

Next to the parking lot was a field where people tossed footballs in the sun.

Conversation among the tailgaters revolved around one subject, football. People debated the game's outcome. Although there was some disagreement about the final score, all the fans picked the Chiefs to be victorious.

Another football topic commonly heard being discussed was the playoffs. Football fans seem capable of analyzing football for hours, never becoming bored with the subject.

Our fun did not end in the parking lot—we still had a game to enjoy. We made our way into the stadium, weaving around the individuals who appeared to have been tailgating since the night before. They walked around shouting "Go Chiefs," as loudly as possible, stopping only to sip their beer.

It is rumored that nowhere in the NFL will you find the extravagant tailgate parties like those of Chiefs fans.

"I've been to several other NFL games and nothing compares to the Chiefs pre-game party," said our new Minnesota friend.

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CALLING ALL STUDENT GROUPS!!!

How would you like to make \$75, \$100, or even \$200. Well now you can!

The Admissions Office will be holding the 2nd Annual Phon-A-Ton January 25 to 29, 1998, and now is the time to start planning for this event. There will be cash prizes going out to the top three student organizations who make the most calls, and daily prizes for the individual making the most calls. Mark your calendars now so your group won't miss out on this great fundraiser. For more information, contact Mateo Remsburg in the Admissions Office at ext. 2376.

International Student Spotlight

by JOY JACOBS
Sports Editor

Imagine if you were in another country half way across the world and did not understand the language they spoke. Would you feel awkward or uncomfortable? Or maybe just homesick? This is exactly the way Neveska Buroul (Nina) felt the first time she arrived in the United States to study abroad. She missed her family and friends so much, but made herself stick it out for the better.

Buroul is 20 years old, and comes to Avila College from Zagreb, Croatia. She is a junior majoring in international business. She chose to study in America because she wanted to learn the English language and to experience a new culture.

"This was a great opportunity for me to come to the United States, and I did not want to miss it. I wanted to learn English and see what America was really all about. So many internationals dream of coming to this country, and having the opportunity that I have. I am very grateful for getting an education here, but I miss my family, friends, and my house on seaside," Buroul said.

Besides holding a G.P.A. of 3.8, Buroul enjoys spending her free time with her close friends, listening to music and going dancing. "I really like to dance to music, it is big over in Europe," Buroul said. "I love it so much, especially the Scorpions, Chris Rea, and Roxette. When my friends and I are dancing, we all have a good time. It is times like that when I am glad that I made the choice to come to America."

On the other hand, Buroul's view of Avila varies. She enjoys getting her education at Avila, but finds it difficult in the social crowd. "Avila is a cool college, it is so small and everyone knows who you are. But the bad thing is that there is too



much gossiping, and everyone knows who, what, where, and with whom. I feel like I have no private life at times, but I guess that comes with the small enrollment of the school."

Buroul's opinion of America is very satisfying. She has traveled all over America, including Florida, Chicago, Las Vegas and the Grand Canyon. She says that America has so many more beautiful sites than she thought it would.

Buroul also enjoys watching American sports. Her favorite sport is basketball. She also enjoys baseball (although she claims not to understand the game). "I love to watch basketball and the fast pace it has. But with baseball I am still trying to pick the rules and plays," Buroul said.

If there is one thing Buroul wants people to know about her it is her nationality. People at Avila often mistake it. "A lot of Americans think that I am Russian or Ukrainian, but I am pure Croatian. They are very different nationalities," Buroul said.

Buroul's goals after she graduates from Avila are still up in the air. One choice is going back to Croatia and working for her step-father's international trade company. "I am not quite sure what I will do yet. I am just concentrating on my studies and enjoying myself for the time being," she said.

Choices, Sacrifices and Rewards

by SHERI G. PORTER
Features Editor

It was that time in the semester, mid-terms. And not just at Avila, but at colleges, high schools and junior highs all around the country.

My husband, Garry, and I spent four hours catching up on the progress of our three teenagers. We started at 2:30 p.m., squeezed in a short dinner break at a local bar and grill, and finished a marathon of parent-teacher conferences at 6:30 p.m.

One high school, one junior high and 20 teachers later, we collapsed in the car, puffed up with pride.

I am proud of our children's academic achievements. But what pleases me the most is who they are—well rounded, responsible and leaders among their peers. Over the course of an autumn afternoon, 20 educators repeated the same good news. They thanked us for the privilege of teaching our children. One even insisted we write a book.

We do not feel qualified for

that endeavor. But what are we doing right? How much credit can we as parents reasonably take for these young lives?

It is a question we have pondered before and concluded that genetics played a part, with some good luck thrown in. Three babies, all born healthy, with easy-to-love dispositions, gave us a good start.

Garry and I have made our mistakes as parents—missed some opportunities that we will never get back. But let me share the two things I know we did right.

First of all, I believe one of the most important gifts a parent can give a child is a loving home. A strong parental team builds a strong foundation. And the building process begins with two parents who love and respect one another. Yes, children can survive and thrive in difficult situations, but there is no better example for a child than two devoted parents, working together.

The second factor is more controversial than the first.

When our firstborn joined us 18 years ago, I chose to stay home with that tiny wonder. I remained the full-time caregiver until our third child raced eagerly into first grade. Garry and I could have claimed we needed two incomes—we cer-

tainly did to maintain the lifestyle we were enjoying before one baby, then two more, popped onto the scene.

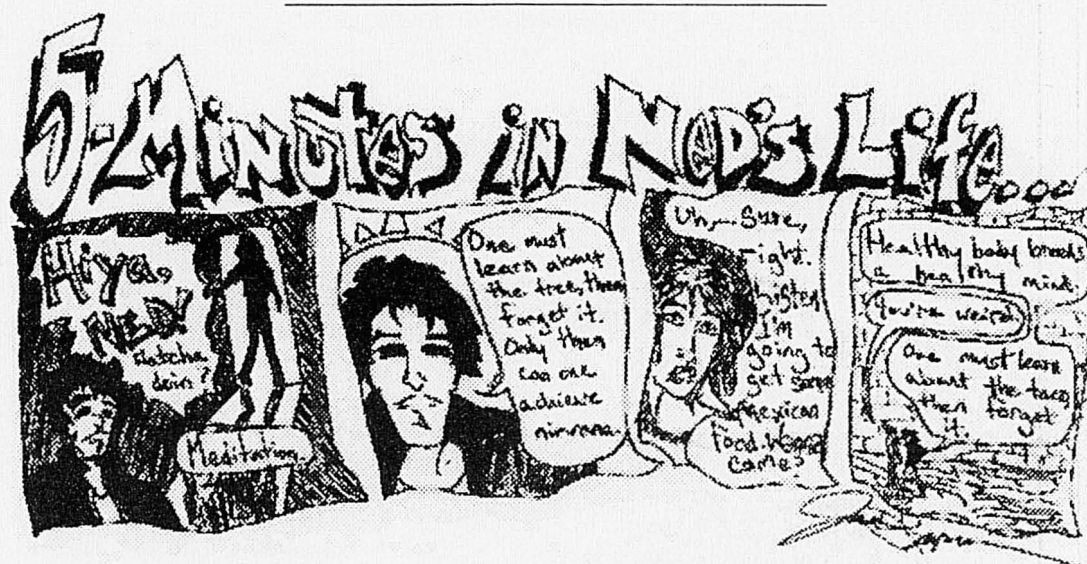
But we chose to loosen our grip on material things. We gave up a new house under construction. We lost a decade of vacations and drove used cars with a spot or two of rust. On weekends, we declined dinner invitations to restaurants we could not afford.

There was no extra money to hire out chores—I remember laying sod, painting the house and living without air conditioning one summer. I shopped garage sales and hosted a few of my own. We spent lots of family time together, playing board games and backyard games.

Over time, our one income family climbed into new and higher tax brackets.

Today, two proud parents are reaping the human rewards of a few short years of monetary sacrifice.

The point is that Garry and I made choices when we became parents. Everyone does. I know that our decision 18 years ago has made a profound difference in the lives of our children. Twenty high school and junior high teachers confirmed that on Oct. 23.



Toward a more holistic tomorrow

by TIFFANY
LEIGH BRATTON
Opinions Editor

A new appreciation of balance and harmony has been emerging from American consciousness. The medical community is already recognizing its benefits.

Once faithful to its medical treatments almost exclusively, many physicians now admit the healing influence of a balanced, holistic approach.

Claiming the influence of prayer, attitude and desire, holistic thought is about harmony and spirituality. Bringing one's mind, spirit and body into a balanced state is only the first step toward an enlightened awareness.

"Like concentric circles, holistic living radiates from the cen-

ter of a balanced individual into every part of their lives," said philosophy professor Sr. Ruth Stuckel, CSJ.

Virtually every aspect of life is related to the elementary processes of balance. Holism is a door leading toward an understanding of ourselves. Marianne Williamson, author of *The Healing of America*, claims that the unbalanced mentality is "a container for destruction."

Ultimately reflected in our politics, the unbalanced life is ruled by the ego. It is conditioned to ignore its spiritual insights and follow a path of materialism. "We have developed an attitude that says 'I care, therefore I don't have to do anything,'" said Williamson. "In our capitalistic society, we have turned our backs on human suffering. We don't

speak out when we see injustice. Our silence has become a tool for the ego. The ego is the same as the devil.

"The Catholic Church recognized the damage caused by silence; they apologized to the Jewish community for their silence during the holocaust."

In America, the seeds of silent observance have created a society of inequality and disparate opportunity. With an economy that blesses the wealthy and abhors the poor, Williamson and others fear that we are falling into a spiritual abyss. "God gave us the innate ability to create our life experiences. We were not given the tools of universal creativity so we could have a better car, house or television set.

"There are 36 million people living in poverty in this country.

One-fifth are children under the age of six. One-half of these children are African-Americans. We have more people in prison in the United States than in any other country in the world. The money spent building these prisons represents one-half of all public housing revenues."

These statistics are symptoms of a collectively imbalanced spirituality.

"Dr. Menninger of the Menninger Institute said 'the Victorians repressed their sexuality. Today, we repress our spirituality.' I think this is the challenge of the 20th century, the realization that we need to trust our spiritual impulses," Sr. Ruth said. "When we trust our spiritual impulses, we go within and find God."

Education is a key to the emerging holism. Its first step is desire. "We have to desire to make a dif-

ference, to impact the world," Sr. Ruth said.

And this is where your voice must be heard. Next issue, we will continue our exploration of holism. We will focus on our individual parts in the unfolding search for spirituality and meaning. The potential impact we can have on our country and our world, the benefit of an education and the spiritual awakening holism produces will be covered.

To blend your voice in this balanced melody, you can contact the author by pager at 480-6104 or you can call or write *The Talon* office.

Through a shared experience of holistic thought, our minds can unlock the gates leading toward enlightenment. The roots of balance and harmony can take root within our minds.

Reflections

Submitted by students

Happiness

by Jessica Brice

Happiness doesn't grow on trees
It doesn't jump into your lap
It doesn't just walk in front of you
It happens when you least expect it

Happiness doesn't taste sweet
It doesn't purr
It doesn't step on your toes
It could do all of this if you wanted it to

But, Happiness is something you care for
And Happiness to me, is you!

A Magical Experience

by GEOFF TAUL
Contributing Writer

"India is such a magical country," said Dr. Sue Ellen McCalley with a fascinated gleam in her eyes. McCalley, a specialist in psychology of education and a professor at Avila, came to such a conclusion during her two week visit to India.

She was one of a group of international professionals who was invited by the Indian government to begin a dialogue and establish working relations with those working in the fields of education, medicine, business and law. McCalley worked at schools in the Indian cities of Agra, Jaipur, and Nehru.

In the last three years she has been busy with several exciting trips to China, Russia and South Africa. However, India is the country she desires to return to the most, due to the wonderful people there. "All of the people there are philosophers who seek a deeper meaning to life," McCalley said.

While in India, McCalley did not concentrate only on business, she also found time to

enjoy the sights and rituals which are present in the country.

One ritual she was fortunate to participate in (and very enthusiastic about discussing) was a sacred fire ceremony at the Guru school. There she witnessed children listening to music and chanting around a fire, while the monks oversaw the ceremony. Her participation involved throwing incense and herbs onto the fire.

While doing this she also experienced a memorable moment.

She, and a monk who could not speak English, participated in a non-verbal conversation. "It was as if we were talking," McCalley said.

This same monk tied a piece of red string around her wrist, which she still proudly displays today. McCalley was later informed by another monk that the string was to serve as a reminder of how closely tied together we all are. This was an experience which she will carry with her forever.

Other sights which enlightened her trip were the spot where Ghandi was cremated and the Taj Mahal. While discussing the Taj Mahal, which means "crown building," she told the gruesome story behind it.

Shah Jahan, who ordered the structure to be built in honor of his late wife, hired architects and builders from all over the world to incorporate their skills. After the Taj Mahal was completed in 1654, Jahan cut off the hands of all

the builders to insure no other structure similar could ever be built.

India has told McCalley they would like for her to return, and she is eager to do so. Judging from her enthusiasm, her trip to India was wonderful.

The magical country with its incredible sights, philosophizing population, and spectacular rituals is a wonderful place to visit.

Once the Indian government offers the finances, McCalley definitely plans to return.

Extra Income '97

Earn \$200-\$500 weekly mailing travel brochures. For more information send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Sea Breeze Travel, P.O. Box 0188, Miami, FL 33261

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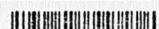
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Director Leaves a Void

by BRIAN STUCKEY
Managing Editor

Avila theater program's spring schedule has been given a few alterations. After learning earlier this semester that the director of one of next semester's shows, who was also scheduled to teach two classes, would not be around for the semester, the department was faced with finding replacements that could do the job.

Samantha K. Wyer-Erbe was scheduled to direct *Assassins* as the final show of the season next spring. She was also scheduled to teach the Stage Movement and Combat classes in the spring. Wyer has been a regular director and teacher at Avila. Wyer's latest directing project here was last season's Homecoming show *Rumors*.

Instead, Wyer will be in Arizona, serving as the assistant to the artistic director at the Arizona Theatre Company.

"Samantha has an opportunity to go to the Arizona Theatre Company," said Charlene Gould, director of theater for Avila. "We will really miss her, but in the real world opportunities come up and people have to jump at them. When she comes back, she will bring a whole new set of experiences."

Wyer will begin her new endeavor the end of December. She was brought on as a third member of the artistic staff in Arizona. Wyer said, "My job

will include traveling to New York, Los Angeles and different places to audition people. The artistic director can't be four places at once."

With Wyer leaving for this new challenge, the theater program has had to find others to take over her roles.

"Sam was unique in that she could direct, choreograph, and do stage combat," Gould said. "We have hired adjuncts to teach the classes and direct *Assassins*. Avila has a good enough reputation in the

area that we're never scraping the bottom barrel to find someone to come direct for us."

Gould said, "Even though we will miss Sam a lot, we wish her well and we think our department will benefit from her experiences, and in the meantime we're fortunate to have other professionals here to fill in."

Local professionals Martin English and Bill Warren have been hired to teach the Stage Combat and Stage Movement classes.

The new director of *Assassins* will be local director and Avila graduate Rick Truman. Truman directed last year's show *The Rivals*.

Wyer said, "I will sorely miss not doing *Assassins* and not being here because I love teaching movement and combat. But it was too great an opportunity to miss it. It was a hard decision."



photo by Brian Stuckey

Coloring Flowers, Vitalizing Gardens

by SATOMI ISHIKAWA
Contributing Writer

French author Marcel Proust wrote in his famous book, *Le Figaro*, "If I can someday see M. Claude Monet's garden, I feel sure that I shall see something that is not so much a garden of flowers as of colours and tones, less an old-fashioned flower garden than a colour garden."

Artist Helen Lea might have felt the same way as Proust did when she visited the painter's garden in Giverny, France in August. If she did, it is natural that the Monet's garden inspired Lea, who is famous for her painting style, to take up her brushes.

Lea, a nationally recognized and respected artist, is having her third show at Thornhill Gallery throughout November. "She kind of claims this is her gallery," said George Chrisman, Thornhill Gallery curator, "which is kind of nice for us, and nice for her, too."

"Well, I feel like it has been," Lea said with a laugh. "This is my third show, and they have been wonderful to me. I think George has a unique way of presenting work in this gallery. The lighting is beautiful. He hangs pictures very well. It really is one of my favorite galleries."

She received her first bachelor's degree in art history from Smith College in Northampton, Mass.

Then she left the United States for Italy, to study at the University of Perugia. After she came back, she worked as an artist at Hallmark Cards, then moved to New York, where she found a job as a curator at the Frick Collection in New York City.

Although her career was smooth and promising, she had to have a little break after she married. After raising her chil-



photo by Satomi Ishikawa

Helen Lea poses beside one of her works of art

dren, and receiving another bachelor's degree in fine arts from the Kansas City Art Institute, the time had come for her to be a full-time artist. That was 12 years ago.

"It wasn't until the children were really almost grown that I felt I could get back into painting full time," Lea said. "And for me, it is a full-time occupation. I didn't know how to balance with family and painting, and give what they needed."

"I think the subject found me," Lea said, explaining how she found her main subject in her paintings — gardens and flowers. She said two incidents led her to the subject.

"I was in England. My son was in school over there. And I had a little spare time, so I visited a garden. I walked into my first English garden and thought, 'I have to paint this!'"

She said her visit to Paris shortly before that incident also influenced her.

"I saw (Pierre) Bonnard, a French painter. I saw his work and style and thought, 'that's like me, I can paint that.'"

She said that the two experiences coincided for her.

"I had the subject there that I would love to paint, and I felt that I could be as free as Bon-

nard with the way he paints, the way he handles paintings." Lea said her passion and enthusiasm for the subject have not faded away, even after 12 years of experience. "It's still there," she said. "I thought it would be gone, but it hasn't been."

Lea brought her paintings of the scenes that she remembers from her visit to France and England. Chrisman described her English garden paintings as 'typically English.' "You notice that, because there are just masses of flowers and a mass of color. It's color on color, flower on flower. It's really very nice."

According to Chrisman, both of her last two shows in 1991 and 1994 were successful, and this show is also expected to be successful.

"She has a very loyal, large group of people who follow her shows," Chrisman said. Of course, the gallery is not only open for her fans.

Thornhill Gallery is open to the public, and admission is free.

Anyone who is interested in paintings by the artist, who, Chrisman says, has "a special touch with flowers," is encouraged to stop by. The exhibit continues until Nov. 25. The gallery is open weekdays 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Avila's Own Brand of Talent

by LAURA K. HARRIS
Editor-in-Chief

On Oct. 25, Avila hosted its first talent show. The evening was packed with talent but, most importantly, fun.

There were four judges to determine who would walk away with the generous cash prizes.

They were Carolyn Coon, Chris "Bump" Ervin, Rachel Nord and Linda Davis.

The night of surprises took place in the snack bar of Marian Center.

All Avila students, faculty,

staff and alumni were invited to attend.

The first place prize for the show was \$150, second prize was \$100 and third prize \$75.

The large cash prizes enticed students who would normally be very reluctant to participate to dust off their talents and bring them out to shine for some extra cash.

The event was sponsored by the Office of Student Life and the Residence Hall Association.

First prize went to Kami Johnson, second prize to Kari Donnell and third prize to Portia McGee.



photo by Brian Stuckey

Kami Johnson impresses the judges to gain first place.



photo by Brian Stuckey

Kari Donnell is second.



photo by Brian Stuckey

Portia McGee finished third.

Every Family Has Its Secrets... but not all are buried in the backyard

by **ROB MEADOWS**
Staff Writer

Spotlights softly climb the dark to full illumination.

Nerves jump from actor to actress as the audience eagerly awaits transportation from reality, and truth fights fiction to entertain.

The Avila Theater Program will present playwright Sam Shepard's Pulitzer Prize winning *Buried Child*.

"It is definitely a multifaceted show," director Robert Foulk said. "Everyone who goes is going to find something that they can relate to."

Foulk is a three year veteran of the theater program, and has directed five shows at Avila.

In addition, he is the production stage manager at the Unicorn Theater in Kansas City, and has directed for Theater Youth America.

Foulk is also an adjunct professor at Avila.

Mike Kruse, playing the role of Vince, said, "*Buried Child* has been the most challenging play I have worked on thus far.

"Foulk has done a great job with character development as well as keeping a semblance of sanity in all of us. It is impossible to explain the experience. Come to the show and then you'll get it."

Rehearsal began Oct. 7, and

Buried Child

Cast List:

Dodge..... Robert Martin
Halie..... Sayra Player
Shelly..... Erin Shelton
Tilden..... Chris Holler
Bradley..... Paul Kilgore
Vince..... Mike Kruse
Dewis..... Brian Osterle



photo by Brian Stuckey
Sayra Player, Robert Martin and Chris Holler begin getting into character for the show.

will continue to Nov. 7, at which time the technical crew will work for two days without the actors.

During tech week the final touches for scenery and lights are done.

"In the design process, we decided that the play needed to have the feeling of skewed reality and decaying life," said Lori Whitsitt, technical director for Avila's theater program.

"The scene design turned out to be very angular. So that has been the most difficult part technically so far."

Dress rehearsal will begin on Nov. 9 and run right into the first day of performance, creating a crash week only bearable by those with a love for their art.

Buried Child is a drama of many views.

"Sam Shepard is a crazy genius with a wild sense of humor," Robert Martin said, playing the role of Dodge in the show.

"For myself this is the most difficult role I have ever played. I have learned a lot about my character and myself. I only hope I can pull off this performance like a good professional

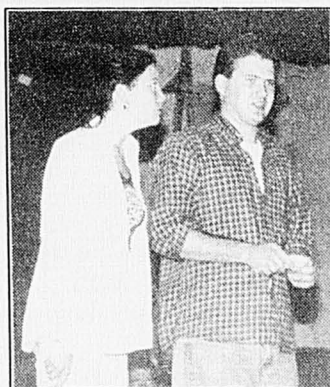
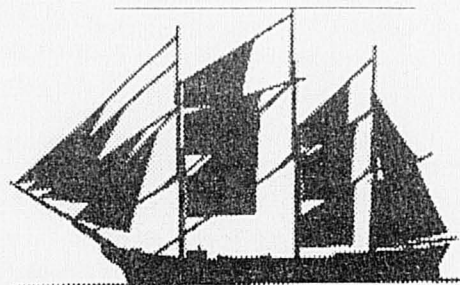


photo by Brian Stuckey
The intensity on stage continues

would," Martin said.

The show will run from Nov. 13-16. Tickets can be purchased at the Goppert Theatre box office.

"Everybody is going to get a different structure," Foulk said. "You won't believe it, but you will enjoy it."



Happy Thanksgiving!

★★ HOROSCOPES ★★

by **Rebecca Rand**

The following should be read for entertainment value only. No truth is forecasted. The stars represent ratings for the month, with ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ representing a superior month.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) ★ ★ ★ ★ Keep your chin up. Just because you have been feeling down and out, it does not mean you are. A surprise is in your future.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Put on a smile. Your hard work and perseverance pays off around the first of the month. Go with the flow.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) ★ ★ ★ Your stars are in alignment this month. Keep on track. Brainstorming brings about positive results.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) ★ Your ability to read between the lines allows you to take charge. Be aware of others' intentions; they are not always what they appear to be. Don't get too bogged down though. Take time to call an old friend.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) ★ ★ Financial matters have gone awry, but don't fret. A loved one will give you insight to an old problem.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - Mar. 20) ★ ★ ★ ★ You are personality plus this month. Help those around you see the humor in life. Good news and positive responses surround you.

Aries (Mar. 21 - Apr. 19) ★ ★ ★ Success appears to be inevitable as you see the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Take others along for the ride.

Taurus (Apr. 20 - May 20) ★ Be where you are. It takes a little to get the ball rolling this month. Define your goals and have an idea of what you want to accomplish.

Gemini (May 21 - Jun. 20) ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Maximize energy to make good things happen. You are likely to visualize a project different than others, use your leadership skills to get the job done.

Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22) ★ ★ ★ ★ Sensitivity to others will cause your life to take a dramatic turn for the better. Try giving random acts of kindness to those least suspecting.

Leo (Jul. 23 - Aug. 22) ★ ★ ★ Be good to yourself for once. Do not make any long term commitments; just take baby steps.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) ★ ★ Your self-confidence is in overabundance. Act upon it and do the unthinkable.

He Said, She Said: *The Devil's Advocate* sparks debate He Said:

by **DAVID SELLER**
Contributing Writer

Ladies and Gentlemen, please brace yourself for the information that I am going to tell you; it just might make you ill.

Keanu "I can't act" Reeves tries to do a southern accent in his new movie *Devil's Advocate*. If that does not make you sick I do not know what will.

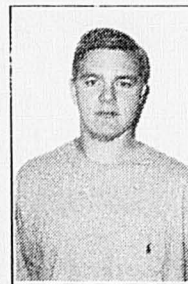
Reeves plays a successful Florida lawyer that goes to New York City and makes a name for himself in a big murder case.

For one, Reeves can not do a southern accent, two he can not play a lawyer, and three he should have done *Speed 2* because those type of roles are made for him.

Al Pacino, need I say more, is great.

He knows what type of roles he can play: a loudmouth know it all.

Pacino plays a flamboyant owner of a New York law firm. He has a devil of a good time when he brings Reeves to New York to work in his law firm



and tries to convince him to rule the world, starting with the law firm.

Pacino is a fun character that enjoys life.

Charlize Theron is going to be huge; watch for her name in the future.

This is the second film that I have seen her in, and she is awesome. You might have seen her before playing a sexy, tough thief in the movie *Two Days in the Valley*.

In *Devil's Advocate* she plays Reeves' wife who becomes manic depressive in New York because she is the only one that can see what Pacino's character really is.

Pacino plays with her mind until she ends up in a psych ward, while Reeves does not believe his wife and commits her. She was very convincing in her role.

The only reason I would suggest this movie would be because of Al Pacino and Charlize Theron, who are both great in the movie and very entertaining.

However, they are in a two and a half hour long movie that takes an eternity in Hell to get over.

Do not waste your time or money on this movie because there are a lot of other movies more entertaining than this.

She Said:

by **LORI GIBSON**
Staff Writer

"It is better to reign in hell than serve in heaven," according to Al Pacino in the newly released movie *The Devil's Advocate*.

Al Pacino delivers a performance worthy of an Oscar in this heart-racing thriller. *The Devil's Advocate*, filled with shocking twists and turns, leaves the viewer breathless. Every time I thought I had the movie figured out, the plot would shift and I would realize I was wrong. Here is a bit of



advice. Do not try to guess. Just sit back and enjoy.

Keanu Reeves returns to the big screen as Kevin Lomax, a hot-shot young attorney from Florida. Lomax's big break comes while he is facing some tough ethical choices during an intense trial. An elite law firm in New York asks for his help in selecting a jury for one of their trials.

Enter Al Pacino, a.k.a. John Milton, an extremely wealthy man with extra-ordinary abilities. Charlize Theron, cast as Lomax's wife, finds herself a victim of many of Pacino's powers. As Theron finds herself spiraling out of control, *The Devil's Advocate* takes off as one of the best movies I have seen this year.

The Devil's Advocate brings images making your stomach turn and others leaving you rubbing your eyes in disbelief. The director, Taylor Hackford, wraps all of this up into a sizzling package that keeps you on the edge of your seat. Hackford, best known for his work in *An Officer and a Gentleman* makes a powerful statement about morality with this new thriller. There is one thing to remember. It's not over until it's over!

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Reflections from the Editor

by LAURA K. HARRIS
Editor-in-Chief

Do you believe in fairy tales? If you go to Avila, you have to. Avila has a magic carpet. Unlike ordinary magic carpets, this one does not fly. It simply takes problems and makes them "disappear."

You see, almost anytime there is a conflict or an issue on campus, it is swept under this magic carpet, never to be dealt with again. But there is even more to the fairy tale than most realize.

As I began interviewing people for an article on financial aid, I was forced to deal with this. Many faculty and department heads have complained about the lack of work study and said they want an article written about it. However, hardly anyone is willing to be quoted because they do not want to upset anyone.

Next, I plodded over to financial aid to talk to Cindy Butler, director of financial aid. I was told Cindy would be in later that day (this was a Friday). I went back later and was then told that Cindy would be out of town until Tuesday. I asked why I was not simply told that earlier, and the reply was no one there had Cindy's calendar.

Does this seem wrong to anyone else? I am not saying Cindy needs to leave an hourly planner in the office, but a rough idea of when she will and will not be in would be nice. Because oftentimes, students are left with nothing else to do about their financial aid besides talk to her so she can "straighten it out."

I also realized that no one paid by Avila knew a doggone thing about any concerns about financial aid. But oddly enough, every student I talked to had a horror story about it. Perhaps it is this belief in fairy tales that allows students to have an overactive imagination and dream up these problems.

Personally, I am in a state of awe that this campus is able to function when no one knows what is going on.

That is the rest of the fairy tale at Avila; students are expected to believe that actions are taken during the night by elves because no one can ever be held accountable for it. No one paid by Avila, that is.

I had always thought that the purpose of college was to expand your mind, to make you question and reach for new answers.

It seems that the only accepted question is one with a pleasant answer, and the only accepted answer when there are not-so-nice questions is to smile and forget about it.

I debated about writing this column for a long time. I know it is going to upset people, especially those in authority. Don't do it, you're a senior, just graduate and get out because now is not the time to



make enemies and burn bridges, I thought. But then I thought: NO. That's not right. I am doing a

grave injustice not only to myself but also others on this campus if I contribute to the fairy tale and grab a broom to sweep more issues under that very large rug.

Do not misunderstand me. I like Avila and I am glad that I transferred here after my freshman year. And that is why I am saying these things; that is why I am upset. Because I genuinely like my school and it bothers me to see these things happen. Yes, there are some issues that students need not hear about. But there are many that we do.

It all comes down to a system of checks and balances. Our tuition is what keeps Avila running. Our tuition pays the salaries of those in power; those that make the decisions that affect the students.

And as students, as those that pay your salary, we deserve to question. Not only do we deserve to, you should want us to.

Avila should expect us to stretch our minds, expand our point of view, and have the courage and conviction to stand up and say something if things are not right.

You see, everyone that receives a paycheck from Avila has a responsibility and an obligation to answer to every student, to answer questions truthfully and honestly, and not hide the truth to "protect us." I have faced a great deal of adversity and pain in my life, and believe me when I tell you the only person with the foresight and intelligence to protect me is myself. Besides that, I am the only one without outside motivation.

Avila needs to prepare us for the real world, and the real world is not going to protect us. Far from it.

For our own safety and protection it is imperative that we question, or we are doomed to repeat mistakes made earlier... simply because we were unaware of them.

It is our right to question, and those that do should not be looked on as rebels, insurgents, or troublemakers.

We that question should bolster your confidence in the future of our world; those that do not question should terrify you.

Again I return to the metaphor of the magic carpet and fairy tale. Fairy tales are stories of fantasy to help little children fall asleep at night. I shudder to think that Avila wishes us to buy into the notion of a fairy tale, for it is our minds that will be lulled into sleep.

In My Humble Opinion:
This One Here, That One Thereby TIM COLEMAN
Regular Columnist

"Truth. I'm looking for universal truths and, ultimately, to replace vagueness with specifics," murmured that one there.

"I see," replied this one here.

"And how will you know when you have found these truths?"

"What do you mean? It will be obvious. It will be in front of me, and so I will possess it there and then."

"And of this procedure you are certain?"

"Yes, of course."

"Then may I ask you a few questions?"

"Yes."

"Has truth's location been lost?"

At this question that one there paused and slowly said, "I don't understand what you are asking."

"I am asking you if you have no direction. Are you at a loss for where to find this truth? What I want to know is the make and mark of your plan."

"Oh, I see. Yes, I have a plan. I'm in school, I study and even read a little."

"And this is the area in which your truths and specifics will be found."

"Yes. I am learning, and soon, very soon, this knowledge will present the truth."

"So it is here that your recognition will take place?"

"Yes, I suppose so."

"How will you recognize it?"

"I don't understand."

"What will it be like, this thing you will see and recognize? How will it differ from all the other things that are, by your admitted view, vague and untrue?" said this one here.

"It will stand out, of course," answered that one there.

"Then you have found out the universal truths?"

"Well, no, not exactly."

"Then what serves as a previous point of reference to recognize the truth?"

"I'm not sure I follow."

"What I am asking is, how will your eyes be able to distinguish between all that they have ever known and that which you see now searching for, without description or guide?"

"Ah, I see. That there is the place of the mind."

"So your mind would recognize the truths?"

"Yes, I think it would."

"But then my question has not changed. How will you know what you have attained your present purpose? What factors will be noted?"

"I will have it, I will know."

"Will you?"

"Yes, I believe I will."

"You will recognize this certain absence of all that you know?"

"I think so."

"So the truth, which you do not know, lies outside your far-



miliar vague world, which you do know now but would like to escape?" "Yes," that one there replied.

"I am wondering about the actuality of truths and specifics that exist in your area of unawareness. Do you plan to use the mind's eye to look about you? Will your thoughts, assumptions, ignorance, logic, reasoning, faith, stereotypes and beliefs retreat to allow for the absolute? What if you miss it? What if the essence of who you think you are dulls the clarity of perception? Might your journey be deceptive then, the truth overlooked, unrecognized, or distorted?"

"I do not know."

"And in such a state of mind, with shades of confusion and doubt, might any experience progress and likewise contain the specific and true but still remain elusive to you?"

"Yes, it might."

"And it might even more so if the experience was missed altogether, its intrinsic value lost through unexposure?"

"Oh yes, I can see that."

"So experience..." began this one here but the sentence was left undone as the timely vision of a thin black man named Jimi broke the dialogue.

He approached, smiled, revealed his abundant talent, and leaned over to whisper a question (a question purposefully concerning whether or not the two were experienced).

This one here laughed with Jimi and answered strongly in the affirmative.

That one there failed to understand their confusion and simply sat silent.

THE TALON

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Please keep letters to 300 words or less. *The Talon* reserves the right to edit letters for reason of space, clarity or inappropriate language. The writer's name will accompany all published letters.

The Talon staff welcomes Letters to the Editor. Each issue, letters received will be published as space allows. All letters must be signed. *The Talon* reserves the right to edit letters for space, clarity, or inappropriate language.

Letters to the Editor

An Avila Graduate Speaks Out

I recently visited my sister, an Avila college junior, in Kansas City. She had a copy of The Talon dated 10/6/97 in her room. After reading the paper, I found it to have improved substantially, both in layout and content, from my years at Avila.

However, the editorial written by Tim Coleman titled "A Rational, Truthful Critique of my Education at Avila College" upset me. The points brought out in his editorial were in direct contrast with my experiences while attending Avila College.

Mr. Coleman complained that there was not "a diverse and intelligent social atmosphere" among the student body at Avila. From my time there, during the Fall of 1991 to the Spring of 1996, nothing was further from the truth for me. I found hard-working students who would spend night after night in Avila's library, studying when they would have preferred to be watching a ball game or seeing a movie. They weren't so obsessed with their studies that they could not take a break to talk to some of the library's assistants, like myself. These students would tell me about what interested them in their area of study with much passion.

While living in Ridgway Hall for four of the five years I attended Avila, I came in contact with many people I would not have known otherwise. Cameron Woods, one of my roommates, helped educate me on the concerns of minorities at Avila, and I developed a greater understanding and empathy as a result.

Also, I got to know some of the foreign students, such as Iestyn Penrose and Yi-Li Linn, quite well. This helped to expand my horizons beyond Missouri and to see what America means to other countries and citizens.

The conversations with students in the dorms, cafeteria, and snack bar helped make my semesters enjoyable. The arguments over which was a better town, St. Louis or Kansas City, were incessant with St. Louis natives. Discussions about politics and important events, such as the dropping of the atomic bomb on Japan, were daily topics with students like Anna-Lisa Criswell, Matt Heelan, and Marion Wright.

And there is not enough space for me to describe the great

times I had at Avila's school-sponsored movie-nights, dances, and sporting events. They offered an excellent respite from the drudgery of classes, laboratories, and work that I needed.

My tiny vocabulary cannot do justice to the professors and employees of Avila. At times, I hounded my instructors beyond reason in preparing for tests or reports. They always had the time, a great ability to help students understand the material, and a home phone number in case I did not understand the parable of the cave, the significance of the industrial revolution, or the four major stages of inflammation prior to the exam.

The staff and administration were extremely helpful as well. Tom Lease's door was always open to any questions I had about Avila's bureaucracy and the Student Senate. The financial aid office did an excellent job of working with me on my financial agreement year after year. And Rusty, the security guard, gave me some wonderful conversation at hours of the night when only he, myself, and Europeans were awake.

While all was not perfect at Avila during my enrollment, the problems were relatively minor. Expecting 20 four-star meals a week based on the dorm fees was somewhat unrealistic. Being able to schedule whatever classes I wanted whenever I desired was impossible for any small underfunded, liberal-arts school, let alone Avila.

Overall, though, I am happy I chose Avila College. I was sorry to read that Mr. Coleman's experiences at Avila had led him to arrive at such a strong "contextual dichotomy." I have a unified belief that Avila left me with many wonderful memories, friends, and academic skills that would have never taken shape had I attended any other private or public school (i.e., Rockhurst or UMKC).

I hope most of the students at 119th and Wornall are undergoing experiences closer to mine than Mr. Coleman's. Both the students and the college would be better served if that were the case.

With much sincerity and gratitude,

Kevin Lujin, Avila College Alumnus, Class of 1996

I would like to thank everyone who signed the Strawberry Workers petition.

Your signatures were presented to Ed Higgins of Marriott Corporation on Monday, Oct. 20. Although Ed could not sign the pledge due to his position in the company, he agreed to pass materials about the campaign and our petitions on to the district manager of the corporation.

Our call to action in this campaign will not go unheard.

Several other schools, like us, are raising awareness on this issue.

Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis University and Pittsburg State University are all schools in the Midwest that use Marriott Corporations for their food service. They, like us, are gathering petitions and gaining student support.

Several other schools in this area have also begun their campaign, even though they do not have Marriott Corporations

who signed the petitions was encouraging.

We were able to rally well and make our college's voice heard.

We generated overwhelming support for the Strawberry Workers in California, even though they live on the coast of our country.

Again, thank you for your support.

We have truly enjoyed a partial victory, even if we have only raised student and faculty awareness on the issue.

We have taken the first step in ensuring that the workers in California will

be granted fair living wages and decent working conditions. Now is the time to wait and see what the district manager of Marriott Corporations in this area will do with all of the petitions, from our school and others.

Signed,
Frances Betzen

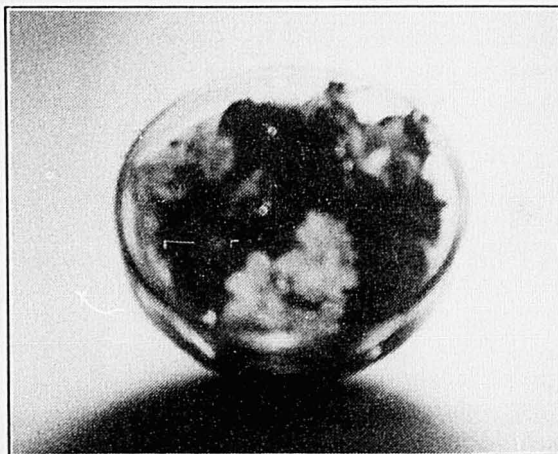


photo by Satomi Ishikawa

on campus.

These schools include the University of Missouri in Columbia, Stephens College in Columbia and the University of Kansas in Lawrence.

Avila fits well in this scheme in campaigning. Even though we are a small college, the response from the students

Q: Would you come back to Avila?

Yes, Avila is great. The people, and with my education major, this is really a good school for education.

Bill Gleason, Elementary Education



Yes, for the Social Work program but no for the residence halls.

Frances Bentzen, Social Work

Definitely. If I didn't come to Avila I wouldn't have learned the things I know now. I wouldn't have had the negative experiences to show me what is positive in life. I wouldn't have made the friends I have. I don't think my life is better because of the Avila institution, but my life is better for the experiences I've had here.

Jason Neland



Sometimes I think I should have chosen a bigger city, but I like Avila.

Elena Elsina, International Business

I really don't know. At the time I was looking for a small college to go to. It would depend if the circumstances were the same.

Julie Papen, Nursing



CAMPUS TALK

Happy
Thanksgiving

Men Go To Conference Play-Offs

by KARI DONNELL
Staff Writer

The men's soccer team ended their regular season with an above .500 record. Five of the Eagles nemesis' were nationally ranked this season, and posed high competition for this group of athletes.

"Even against ranked teams, we held our ground and gave our best effort," C.J. Harle said.

Avila, 8-7-1 going into post-season play, finished off their regular season matching up with cross-town rivals. On Oct. 22 the men's team traveled to William Jewell's territory for head-to-head competition.

The Eagles dominated the first 10 minutes of the game, contributing three goals to the offensive threat. Although Jewell answered with two goals in the first half, Avila ended up with the game victory.

Robbie Davies, Ian Valentine, and Jamie Rowlett each brought in a goal for the cause, while Tim Barnett scored twice for Avila.

"Every goal was the best of the season. We actually had an offensive role, which we usually don't have," Ray Nastase said.

Nationally ranked Rockhurst was the next non-conference competitor that the Eagles had to face. The results were not as pleasing. The northside squad defeated Avila 4-0.

Avila's efforts through the season gave them a record which took them on into post-season play in Witchia against Kansas Newman yesterday.

Women's Regular Season Comes to a Close

by AMANDA NEDRUD
Staff Writer

The Avila Lady Eagle soccer team has ended their regular season by losing to a ranked College of Saint Mary team 3-0.

"College of Saint Mary has a really good team," junior Corey Brown said. "They just beat a nationally ranked team and we kept them close and played a really good game. You just have to give them credit, they're a great team."

The Eagles ended up with a record of 6-7-2. A record they are not proud of, but will live with.

"With all the injuries and new faces it's hard to get adjusted," freshman Tiffany King said. "I thought we worked hard and played well all season. There is always next season."

Next season is what the Eagles will have to start from. With their record, the team has only a slim chance to make it to the playoffs this season.

"We have two ranked teams in our conference, Bellevue and College of Saint Mary, so they will go to the playoffs and the last spot is between Saint Mary's of Leavenworth and us. We have a chance but it's not a good one," Brown said.

With that in mind, the Eagles look to better themselves for next year.

They will start practices in the spring and work out through the summer and fall.

"We have a good team and with some hard work we can have an even better team," King said.

"Look for us to do a lot better next year."

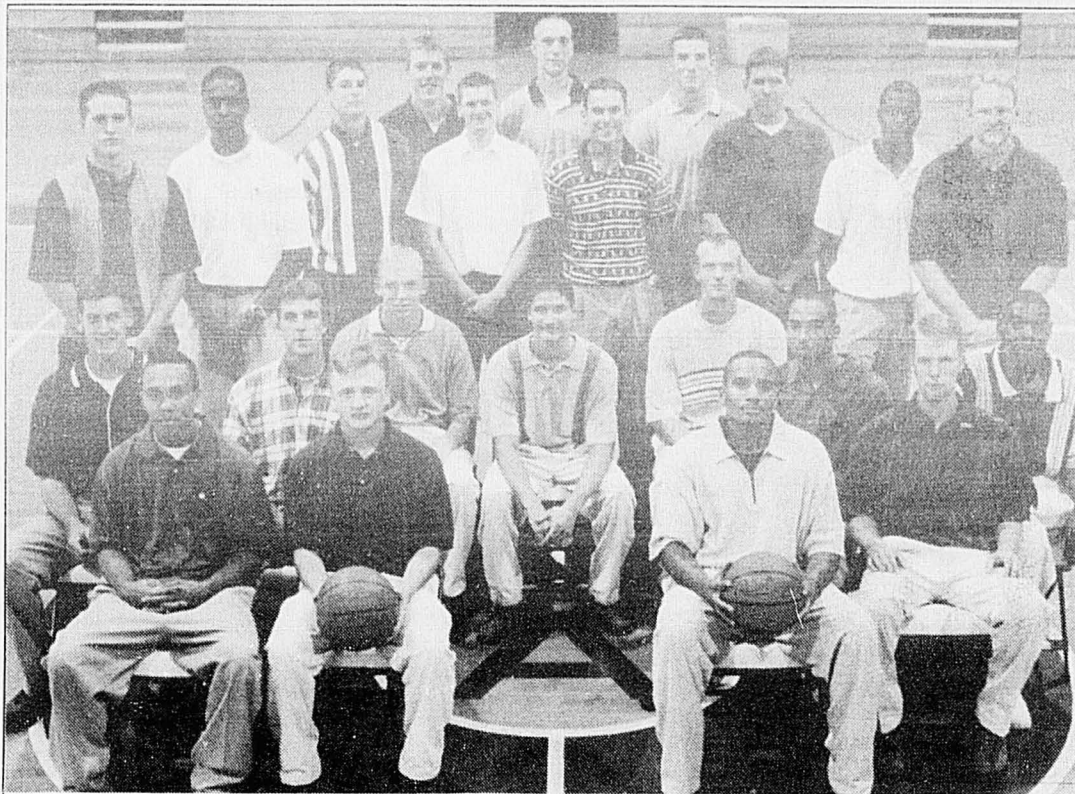


photo by Clay Ransom

Avila College 1997-98 Men's Basketball

Front Row (from left): Ryan Glasgow, Bob Turner, Terrell Tigner, Greg Oelrichs.

Middle Row (from left): Danny Mudge, Chad Wilkinson, Ryan Town, Andy Feurborn, Chris Aulbur, DeKorey Albright, Rofique Miller.

Back Row (from left): Mike Hopkins, James Harris, Kyle Henage, George Mallon, Rodney Wittenberg, Noah Amerson, Isaiah Hultman, Jesse Nichols, Chad Lewis, Mike Strong, Shane Sands.

Men's Basketball Schedule 1997-1998

11/1	Alumni Game	Home	7:30 p.m.
11/12	Ottawa University	Ottawa, Kan.	7:30 p.m.
11/17	Benedictine College	Atchison, Kan.	7:30 p.m.
11/22	Union College	Lincoln, Neb.	8:30 p.m.
12/1	Benedictine College	Home	7:30 p.m.
12/5-6	Missouri Western Tournament	St. Joseph, Mo.	TBA
12/6	William Jewell or Missouri Southern		6:00 or 8:00 p.m.
12/13	Harris Stowe College	Home	2:00 p.m.
12/19-20	William Jewel Classic	Liberty, Mo.	TBA
1/2-3	Incarnate Word Tournament	San Antonio, Texas	TBA
1/7	Ottawa University	Home	7:30 p.m.
1/10	Harris Stowe College	St. Louis, Mo.	4:00 p.m.
1/13	Park College	Parkville, Mo.	7:30 p.m.
1/16	College of the Ozarks	Home	7:30 p.m.
1/17	Bartlesville Wesleyan College	Home	7:30 p.m.
1/23	York College	York, Neb.	7:30 p.m.
1/24	Bellevue University	Bellevue, Neb.	7:30 p.m.
1/28	Rockhurst College	Home	7:30 p.m.
1/31	St. Mary College	Leavenworth, Kan.	7:30 p.m.
2/3	Union College	Home	7:30 p.m.
2/6	College of the Ozarks	Point Lookout, Mo.	7:30 p.m.
2/7	Bartlesville Wesleyan	Bartlesville, Okla.	7:30 p.m.
2/10	Park College	Home	7:30 p.m.
2/13	St. Mary College	Home	7:30 p.m.
2/14	Rockhurst College	Kansas City, Mo.	7:30 p.m.
2/20	Bellevue University	Home	7:30 p.m.
2/21	York College	Home	7:30 p.m.



above: Rachel Garrison avoids a St. Mary opponent on the field.
left: Mike Muller looks for an option to cross the ball.
below left: H. L. Dunsworth takes the ball down the field.
below: Melanie Bogan runs to beat the opposition to the ball in their final home game against the College of St. Mary.

photos by Brian Stuckey

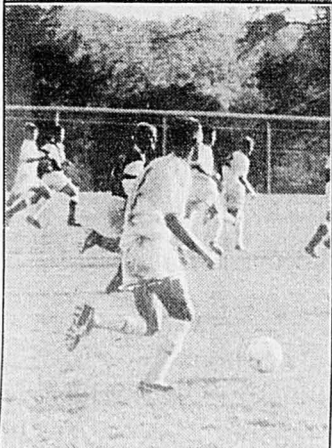


photo by Brian Stuckey

The men's basketball team prepares for their 1997-98 season.



photo by Clay Ransom

Avila College 1997-98 Women's Basketball

Front Row (from left): Lisa McClellan, Erin Carr, Stacey Clark, Kelly Van Reissen.

Middle Row (from left): Rachel Ahlers, Delaina Renfro, Lindsay Thompson, Melanie Bogan, Kristina Clore, Sherri Miller, Ginny Goebel.

Back Row (from left): Dianne Durham, Emily Schmidt, Katie Gardner, Jessica Pankey, Kari Donnell, Kelly Schnepp, Chrystal McGrew, Phoebe Clark, Molly Paige, Aja Jackson, Coach Jim McMurray.

**Women's Basketball Schedule
1997-1998**

11/1	Alumni Game	Home	5:30 p.m.
11/11	Park College	Home	7:30 p.m.
11/12	William Jewell College	Home	7:30 p.m.
11/15	Harris-Stowe College	Home	2:00 p.m.
11/18	Graceland College	Home	7:30 p.m.
11/19	William Woods University	Fulton, Mo.	7:30 p.m.
11/21	McPherson College	Home	7:00 p.m.
11/25	Missouri Valley College	Home	7:30 p.m.
12/9	Graceland College	Lamoni, Iowa	7:30 p.m.
1/10	Harris-Stowe College	St. Louis, Mo.	2:00 p.m.
1/12	Kansas Wesleyan University	Home	5:30 p.m.
1/16	College of the Ozarks	Home	5:30 p.m.
1/17	Bartlesville Wesleyan College	Home	5:30 p.m.
1/19	Missouri Valley College	Marshall, Mo.	7:00 p.m.
1/21	St. Gregory's College	Home	5:30 p.m.
1/23	York College	York, Neb.	5:30 p.m.
1/24	Kansas Newman College	Wichita, Kan.	5:30 p.m.
1/28	Rockhurst College	Home	5:30 p.m.
1/31	St. Mary's College	Leavenworth, Kan.	5:30 p.m.
2/2	William Woods University	Home	7:00 p.m.
2/6	College of the Ozarks	Point Lookout, Mo.	5:30 p.m.
2/7	Bartlesville Wesleyan College	Bartlesville, Okla.	5:30 p.m.
2/9	Park College	Parkville, Mo.	7:00 p.m.
2/10	Baptist Bible College	Springfield, Mo.	5:30 p.m.
2/13	Saint Mary's College	Home	5:30 p.m.
2/14	Rockhurst College	Kansas City, Mo.	5:30 p.m.
2/18	St. Gregory's College	Shawnee, Okla.	7:00 p.m.
2/20	Kansas Newman College	Home	5:30 p.m.
2/21	York College	Home	5:30 p.m.

WANTED:Are you a Nursing
Student?

Avila Student Senate
has an opening for a
Nursing Senator.
See Rey Mata in the
Office of Student Life
for an application.
Get Involved!

Photo by Brian Stuckey
Monica Barnes goes up for a spike in a home volleyball game.**Senior Looks to Final Season**by JOY JACOBS
Sports Editor

Nobody ever said that being successful and getting to the top would be a piece of cake.

Just ask senior Sherri Miller about this. Miller is entering her fourth and final season as a first year starter for the Lady Eagles basketball team.

This is an accomplishment that she is very proud of due to all the hard work she has put in since she first picked up a basketball.

Miller went to grade school in Clinton, Mo. and played on an all boys team for two years where she was influenced to play basketball by her older brothers.

"My brothers influenced me to get involved and participate in basketball, but it was just so weird playing with all boys, but it helped me become a better player," Miller said.

Miller started playing with girls in junior high and found herself a bit more advanced than the others due to playing with boys in grade school.

After junior high, her family moved to Camdenton, Mo. in the Lake of the Ozarks. Miller participated in volleyball, basketball, and track.

During basketball season her freshman and sophomore years were divided between junior varsity and varsity.

Her junior and senior years, she served as one of the captains of the varsity team.

Miller chose Avila because it was a better opportunity for an education and financially affordable for her family.

She admits, though, that she had to get adjusted to a new coaching style and the style of play in the NAIA.

"It was hard at first coming into college playing at a faster pace. It is also very demanding of the players, and time consuming, but I love the game so it is worth it," Miller said.

Miller has high expectations of the team and herself this year. She hopes that her leader-

ship skills as a senior will reflect on her teammates, and that she improves her confidence to score more.

"I want my teammates to know that they can rely on me, and that I can rely on them whatever the situation is. It is important that we all communicate to one another, because that is what is going to make us a successful team," Miller said.



Miller sees the Eagles having one of the best seasons in her four years at Avila this season. If they stay focused, and get used to playing with each other, they have a shot of going far into the season.

"We have the talent, we just need to pull together and be able to do something that Avila has never seen before," Miller said.

Besides spending a good amount of time on the basketball court, Miller has excelled off the court in the academic field as well. She is a History-Secondary Education major, and has plans to become a teacher and coach after she graduates from Avila.

Miller's love for basketball is one that can not compare with any other story.

Her hard work is finally paying her back, and giving her a sight of satisfaction.

"Basketball is one of the hardest games to play. You have to be mentally ready at all times, but the excitement and adrenaline is what I love most about it," Miller said.

"If anyone wants to get to the top and have their hard work pay off then they have to give a little of themselves away," Miller said.

"Plus they have to stick it out and look on the positive side that they are there because they have a gift of talent that is overflowing."

**Volleyball Eagles Turn
Their Season Around**by AMANDA NEDRUD
Staff Writer

It has not been the best of seasons.

But that did not stop the Avila Eagles volleyball team from finishing in second place at the Avila Classic Tournament.

"We played really well," Junior Mary VonBohland said. "We showed people we are a lot better than what they've seen from us this season."

"It was a big boost going into the final games of our season," senior Michelle Myers said. We finally proved to people and ourselves that we are a good team and can win."

The Eagles went into the tournament with a 1-17 record. They play two more games

before the conference tournament, which is seeded according to the regular season record.

"With our record being so bad, we'll really have to work if we plan to win our conference final," Myers said.

"This may be our last time to prove how good we are, and a big stepping stone for us next year."

The conference final will be decided in the next few weeks.

With that in mind, the team is really working hard on finishing the regular season on a high note.

"This will be our chance to make a bad season into something better," VonBohland said. "We'll go out and do our best and hopefully win our conference tournament."

FALL SPORTS

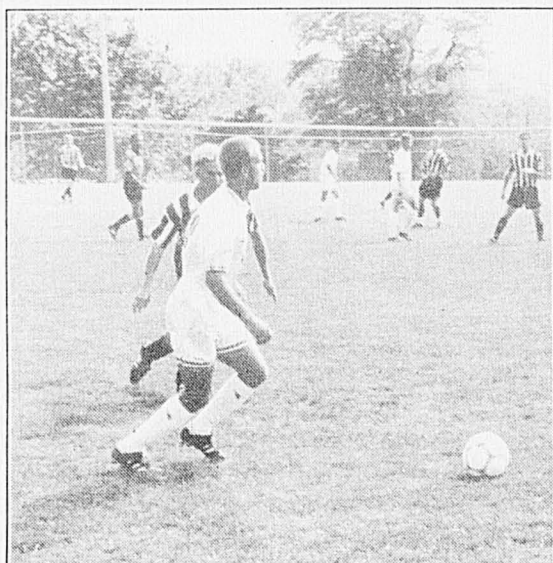


photo by Brian Stuckey
Ian Valentine searches the field for an available teammate to pass to.

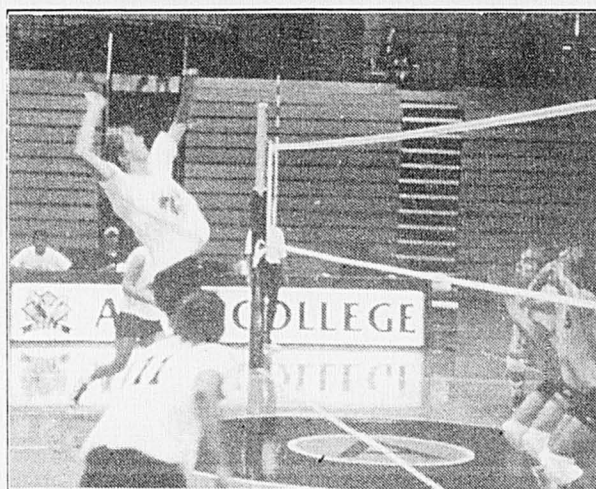


photo by Brian Stuckey
Kaleen Marsh hits a hard spike over the net.

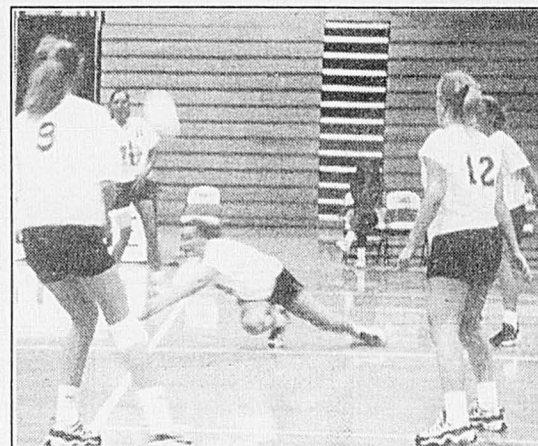


photo by Brian Stuckey
Tracey Fox takes a dive for the ball.



photo by Brian Stuckey
Avery Abernathy takes on a Benedictine opponent earlier this season.

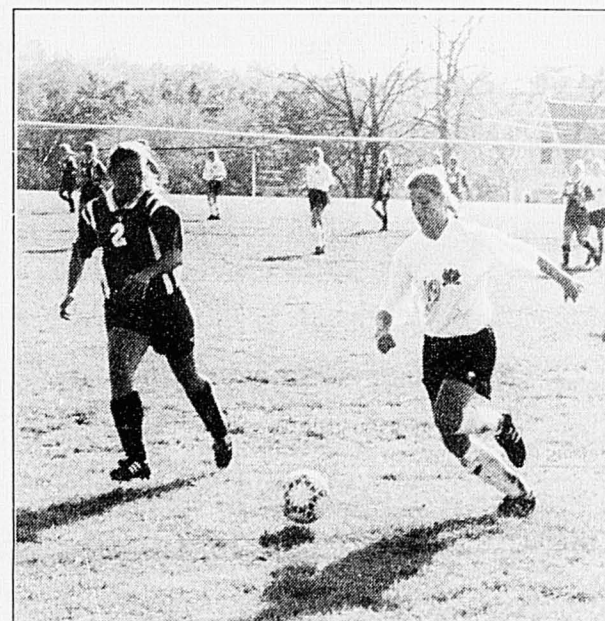


photo by Brian Stuckey
Mary Quarando shows her quickness on the field.

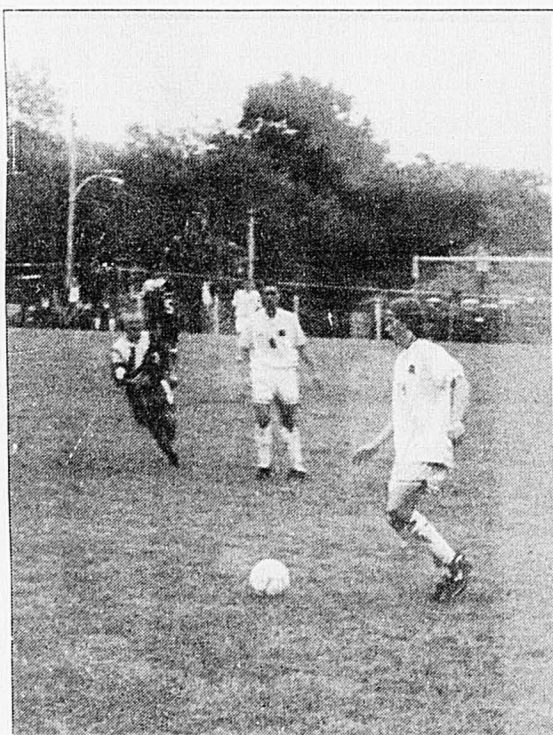


photo by Brian Stuckey
Sweeper Jason Gatewood prepares to pass to a teammate.

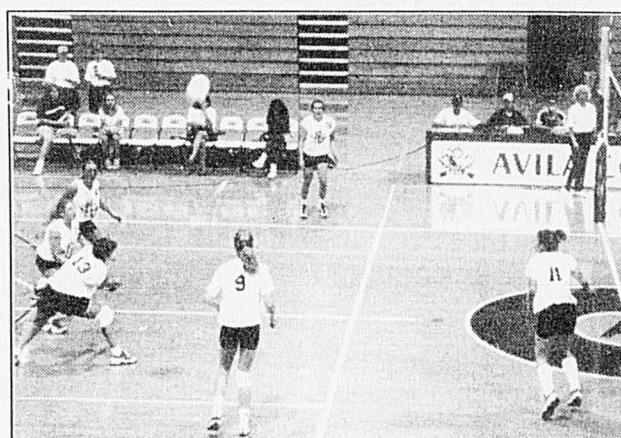


photo by Brian Stuckey
Jessica Pankey, Alycia Bell and Katie Gardner communicate on the court.

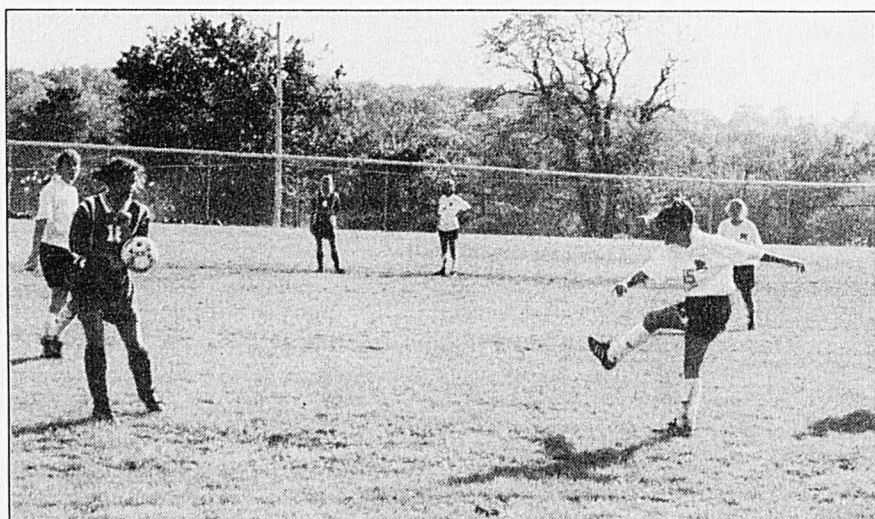


photo by Brian Stuckey
Melanie Bogan fires a shot.

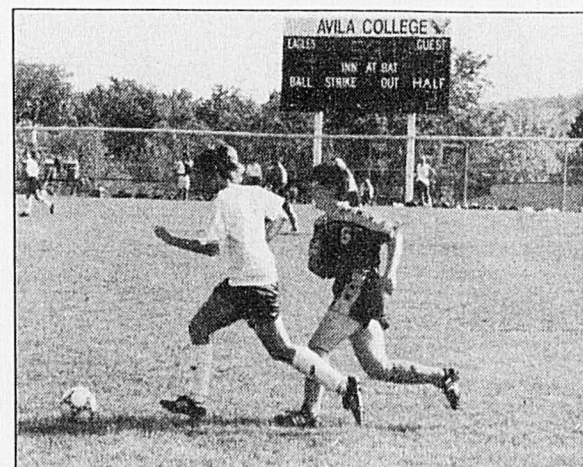


photo by Brian Stuckey
Kelly Umscheid dribbles past an opponent.